

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 have been canceled.

Claims 12-15 have been withdrawn.

The amendment to claim 11 finds support in the Specification on page 77, line 17.

Statement of the Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for granting an Interview and for her most helpful remarks. The remaining rejections of all of the claims were discussed, but no agreement was reached at that time.

Rejections Under 35 USC §103

The Examiner's positions, as well as Applicants' remarks, are summarized on pages 7-13 in the Response filed on October 18, 2007 and are not repeated here. The following remarks are offered to supplement those submitted earlier.

Referring to the Declaration of Dr. Zanellato submitted with the October 18, 2007 Response, Applicants point out that, unlike the prior art, the instant application illustrates the role of viscosity in preparation of a product with optimal anti-adhesion properties. That is, the data in Study 8 presented in the instant application, taken in conjunction with the data presented in the Zanellato Declaration indicate that when one holds the crosslinking steady there is in effect a "U" shaped response in the ability to inhibit adhesions. In other words, a low viscosity has the same effect as a high viscosity and there is a particular range in which the viscosity can influence

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the prevention of adhesions. These are surprisingly improved results compared to the teachings of the prior art and serve as evidence of the nonobviousness of the invention.

Thus, in view of the above and the Response submitted October 18, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and removal of the rejections.

Conclusion

Accordingly, allowance of the claims of the present application is respectfully requested. In the event that the Amendment does not place the present application into condition for allowance, entry thereof is respectfully requested as placing the present application into better condition for appeal.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Susan W. Gorman (Reg. No. 47,604) in San Diego, CA at telephone number 858-792-8855 to conduct an Interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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